MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information. No talukwar statistics of appointments are prepared.

Representation in Service.

163. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they contemplate giving priority in the matter of appointments to applicants from communities insufficiently represented in the service, in proportion to their population and education and from those who inhabit the interior taluks of north Travancore?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member's attention is invited to the Dewan's replies to the representations of Mr. N. Kumaran Asan and Mr. P. J. Kurien at the nineteenth session of the Assembly. (*Vide* pages 186 and 193 of the Proceedings.)

Disposal of Petitions.

164. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Are the Government aware of the fact that when petitions relating to matters of public interest are sent to the officers of Government either by the public or their representatives, with a request for reply, some of them do not send any reply at all?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to lay down a rule making it obligatory on the officers to give endorsements on such petitions within a fixed time?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) Instructions will be issued that all signed petitions presented to the proper authority should be answered as promptly as possible.

Free Supply of Books to Pupils of Depressed classes.

165. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*):

(*a*) Are the Government aware that the depressed classes such as Pulayas and Parayas have not, owing to their poverty, made sufficient advancement in education, in spite of the fact that they are admitted into schools and given fee concessions?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to encourage the children belonging to these classes, by giving them, free of cost, the text-books required during the period of their primary education?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) Government consider that this is not necessary in view of the fact that there is only one text-book for each of the primary classes.

Village Roads in Muvattupuzha.

166. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*):

(*a*) Has the usual grant allotted for the maintenance of village roads in the Muvattupuzha taluk been spent this year also?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.]

(*b*) What village roads and cartable roads in that taluk are being left this year without the usual maintenance grant being expended on them?

(*c*) Has the Sub-divisional Officer diverted any amount from the maintenance grant for the village roads and cartable roads in the taluk, for any other works?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes; as far as possible.

(*b*) Some minor roads were proposed by the Executive Engineer to be left out, but this has not been approved of by the Chief Engineer.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

Arur-Arakkuzha Road.

167. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): In view of the fact that it is very difficult to take vehicles along the Main Central Road between Kuttattukulam and Muvattupuzha on account of the obstacle caused by the Arur ridge, will the Government be pleased to extend by two miles the road opened by the people through the level country to the east of that ridge along the Arakkuzha village, and connect it with the Kuttattukulam road?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the affirmative. There is a provision of Rs. 8,000 in the draft budget for 1099 for improving the *ghat* portions of the Main Central Road between Kozha and Muvattupuzha.

Admission to Schools and Transfer Certificates.

168. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Have the Government had occasion to know that people are generally undergoing great difficulties in the matter of getting students admitted into the schools and for getting their transfer certificates from them?

(*b*) If so, will the Government make the necessary arrangements at once to remove the difficulties of the people in this matter?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Leave availed of by the present Sanitary Commissioner.

169. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel cum Vilavankod*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state on how many occasions and for what periods in each case the present Sanitary Commissioner has gone on leave since he resumed charge of the Sanitary Department?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly